

Message Text

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FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2648

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUANDA 0368

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: POLI AO PO

SUBJECT: CABINET MINISTER COMMENTS ON ANGOLA

LUANDA 0368

1. ITALIAN COLLEAGUE AND I HAD OPPORTUNITY MEET PRIVATELY FOR A FEW MINUTES MAY 24 WITH MINISTER INTERTERRITORIAL COORDINATION ALMEIDA SANTOS. HIS COMMENTS ON FUTURE OF ANGOLA FOLLOW:

A. ORGANIZATION OF LOCAL PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WILL PARALLEL NOT DEPEND FROM LISBON PG. UNTHINKABLE THAT LISBON CONTINUE TO DIRECT ANGOLAN OR MOZAMBIKAN AFFAIRS; AUTONOMY WILL BE GRANTED SO THAT SELF-DETERMINATION EXERCISE WILL BE GENUINE.

B. SELF-DETERMINATION WILL INCLUDE FEDERATION AND FULL INDEPENDENCE OPTIONS. GOP OPTIMISTIC THAT "CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC" LINKS BETWEEN ANGOLA AND PORTUGAL WILL BE ENDORSED BY ANGOLANS; AND ANTICIPATES CONTINUED SHARED DEFENSE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR SOME TIME.

C. CABINDA MUST REMAIN INTEGRAL PART OF ANGOLA; IT IS ANGOLA'S "KATANGA." IF CABINDA WERE ALLOWED SEPARATE RELATIONSHIP WITH PORTUGAL, REST OF ANGOLA WOULD BE VULNERABLE TO DISINTEGRATION.
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WHEN DELEGATION OF CABINDANS CALLS ON MINISTER LATER TODAY HE

DOES NOT INTEND TO GIVE THEM CHANCE TO BROACH SUBJECT; HE WILL OPEN CONVERSATION WITH DECLARATION THEY CAN FORGET THEIR SEPARATIST NOTIONS.

2. ALMEIDA SANTOS SAID HE REALIZED US MUST BE PLEASED WITH PORTUGAL'S ACCEPTANCE AT LAST OF PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION. HE SAID HE HAD HEARD (SIC) USG MIGHT BE PREPARED TO OFFER ECONOMIC AID TO ASSIST IN TRANSITION PERIOD FOR ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE FROM COLONIES TO SELF-GOVERNED STATES. "A DROP IN BUCKET FOR US WOULD MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE TO MOZAMBIQUES'S FUTURE," HE SAID. (I GAVE HIM NO ENCOURAGEMENT.)

3. ALMEIDA SANTOS GOES TO NOVA LISBOA MAY 25 WHERE HE WILL HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE; AND PLANS TO JOIN FONMIN MARIO SOARES IN LONDON MAY 26 FOR TALKS WITH PAIGC. RE POSSIBLE NEGOTIATIONS WITH FRELIMO AND ANGOLAN GROUPS, HE SAID PORTUGAL HAS NO LIST OF PRIORITIES (I.E., ORDER DOES NOT REFLECT ANY PRECONCEPTIONS ABOUT FUTURE OF GUINEA, MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA) BUT WILL TALK WITH REPRESENTATIVES AS OPPORTUNITIES ARISE. CONFIRMED SOARES HAD EXPLORATORY TALKS WITH "HIS OLD PERSONAL FRIEND AGOSTINHO NETO" PRIOR TO PG'S ORGANIZATION.
BRIGGS

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